



Robert Greene Sterne Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michele A. Cimbala Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Robert C. Millonig Donald J. Featherstone Timothy J. Shea, Jr Michael V. Messinger 'Judith U. Kim Patrick E. Garrett Jeffrey T. Helvey
Eldora L. Ellison
Thomas C. Fiala
Donald R. Banowit
Peter A. Jackman
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Brian J. Del Buono
Mark Fox Evens
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Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
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Frank R. Cottingham
Daniel A. Klein
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht

Tracy L. Muller
Jon E. Wright
LuAnne M. DeSantis
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Cynthia M. Bouchez
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Gaby L. Longsworth
Lori A. Gordon
Laura A. Vogel
Byan S. Wade
Bashir M.S. Ali
Shannon A. Carroll
Anbar F. Khal
Michelle K. Holoubek
Marsha A. Rose
Young Tang
Christopher J. Walsh

W. Blake Coblentz* James J. Pohi* John T. Haran Mark W. Rygiel Kevin W. McCabe Michael R. Malek*

Registered Patent Agents: Karen R., Markowicz Matthew J. Dowd Katrina Yujian Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzman Victoria S. Rutherford Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukherjee Scott M. Woodhouse Liliana Di Nola-Baron Peter A. Socarras Jeffrey K. Mills Danielle L. Letting Lori Brandes Steven C. Oppenheime

Of Counsel Edward J. Kessler Kenneth C. Bass III Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

October 23, 2006

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8587
INTERNET ADDRESS: PGARRETT@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 2616

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/909,896; Filed: July 23, 2001

For:

Methods and Systems for Digitally Processing Optical Data Signals

Inventors:

Agazzi et al.

Our Ref:

1875.1100001

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
- 2. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) for \$300.00 to cover excess claims fee;
- 3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
- 4. One (1) Return Postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Patrick E. Garrett

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 39,987

PEG/JJP/srb Enclosures 563802_1.DOC

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW: Washington, DC 20005: 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540: www.skqf.com

PTO/SB/17 (01-06) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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A DAMAS		Complete if Known				
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).		Application Number	09/909,896			
FEE TRAN	19MIIIAL	Filing Date	July 23, 2001			
For FY 2006		First Named Inventor	Oscar AGAZZI			
Andieset eleine small antitus	Examiner Name	Nguyen, Toan D.				
Applicant claims small entity s	Art Unit	2616				
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$) \$300.00	Attorney Docket No.	1875.1100001			
METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)						
Check X Credit Card Money Order None Other (please identify):						
X Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: 19-0036 Deposit Account Name: Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.						
For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)						
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under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card						
Information and authorization on PTO-2038.						
FEE CALCULATION (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)						
1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, A		00U EEEO EVA	MINIATION EEEC			
FILI	NG FEES SEAF Small Entity	RCH FEES EXA Small Entity	MINATION FEES Small Entity			
Application Type Fee ((\$) Fee (\$)	Fees Pald (\$)		
Utility 300	150 500	250 20	0 100			
Design 200	100 100	50 13	0 65			
Plant 200	100 300	150 16	0 80			
Reissue 300	150 500	250 60	0 300			
Provisional 200	100 0	0	0 0			
2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES Fee Description	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)				
Each claim over 20 (including	50	25				
Each independent claim ove	200	100				
Multiple dependent claims	360	180				
Total Claims Extra Claims Fee (\$) Fee Paid (\$) 57 - 20 or HP = 51 6 x \$50.00 = \$300.00				pendent Claims		
57 - 20 or HP = 51 6	x \$50.00 = <u>\$3</u>	00.00	<u>Fee (\$)</u>	Fee Paid (\$)		

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)			200		
Multiple depende	ent claims			360	
Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)	<u>Multiple Deper</u>	
20 or h	-IP-51 <u>6</u> x	\$50.00	= \$300.00	<u>Fee (\$)</u>	
HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.					
Indep. Claims	Extra Claims	Fee (\$)	Fee Paid (\$)		
3 or HP	9 = 3 <u>0</u> x	\$200.00	= \$0.00		
HP = highest number of	f independent claims paid	for, if greater th	nan 3.		

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50

Fee (\$) Fee Paid (\$) 4. OTHER FEE(S) Fees Pald (\$) Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late fling surcharge):

SUBMITTED BY Registration No. Telephone Signature 39,987 (202) 371-2600 (Attorney/Agent) Name (Print/Type) Patrick E. Garrett October 23, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.